

CHAPTER 12
IOWA TUITION GRANT PROGRAM
[Prior to 8/10/88, see College Aid Commission, 245—Ch 4]

283—12.1(261) Tuition grant based on financial need to Iowa residents enrolled at eligible private institutions of postsecondary education in Iowa.

12.1(1) *Financial need.* The need of an applicant for financial assistance under this program shall be evaluated annually on the basis of a confidential statement of family finances filed on forms designated by the commission. The form must be received by the processing agent by the date specified in the application instructions.

12.1(2) *Tuition and mandatory fees.* Tuition and mandatory fees shall be defined as those college costs paid annually by all students enrolled on a full-time basis, such costs to be reported annually to the commission by each participating institution.

12.1(3) *Student eligibility.* A recipient must be an Iowa resident who is enrolled for at least three semester hours or the trimester or quarter equivalent in a program leading to a degree from an eligible Iowa institution. A recipient may receive this grant for summer enrollment if the recipient is enrolled in an institutionally defined accelerated academic program. Schools shall submit to the commission for staff approval written plans outlining an accelerated academic program prior to making summer awards. The criteria used by the state board of regents to determine residency for tuition purposes, IAC 681—1.4(262), are adopted for this program.

12.1(4) *Self-supporting applicants.* For purposes of determining financial independence, the commission has adopted the definition in use by the U.S. Department of Education for the federally funded student assistance programs. Self-supporting applicants must certify their status on the financial aid form and supply any required documentation to the educational institution.

12.1(5) *Priority for grants.* Applicants are ranked in order of the estimated amount which the family reasonably can be expected to contribute toward college expenses and awards are granted to those who demonstrate need in order of family contribution, from lowest to highest, insofar as funds permit.

12.1(6) *Award notification.* A grant recipient is notified of the award by the educational institution(s) to which application is made. Any award notification provided by a candidate institution or an institution on probation with the accrediting agency must be made contingent upon the institution maintaining affiliation with the accrediting agency. The institution(s) is responsible for completing necessary verification and for coordinating other aid to ensure compliance with student eligibility requirements and allowable award amounts. The institution reports changes of student eligibility to the commission.

12.1(7) *Award transfers and adjustments.* Recipients are responsible for promptly notifying the appropriate institution(s) of any change in enrollment or financial situation. The educational institution will make necessary changes and notify the commission.

12.1(8) *Restrictions.* A student who is in default on a Stafford Loan, SLS Loan, or a Perkins/National Direct/National Defense Student Loan or who owes a repayment on any Title IV grant assistance or state award shall be ineligible for assistance under the Iowa tuition grant program. Eligibility for state aid may be reinstated upon payment in full of the delinquent obligation or by commission ruling on the basis of adequate extenuating evidence presented in an appeal under the procedure set forth in 283—Chapter 5. Credits that a student receives through “life experience credit” and “credit by examination” are not eligible for tuition grant funding.

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code sections 261.15(2) and 261.16(3).

283—12.2(261) Tuition grant institutional eligibility requirements.

12.2(1) *Methods of gaining institutional eligibility under Iowa Code section 261.9.* An Iowa institution requesting participation in the Iowa tuition grant program must apply to the college student aid commission utilizing the commission's designated application.

The applicant institution must:

- a. Be accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges (NCA); or
- b. Be certified by the NCA as a candidate for accreditation; or
- c. Be a school of nursing accredited by the National League for Nursing and approved by the board of nurse examiners, including one operated, controlled, and administered by a county public hospital.

12.2(2) *Processing applications.* Applicant forms shall be provided by the commission.

The applicant institution shall furnish to the commission supporting documentation establishing accreditation or accreditation plans of the institution.

If applicant attempts to qualify for the tuition grant program under paragraph 12.2(1) "e" above, applicant shall provide to the commission a copy of the official transcript issued by applicant for any student used pursuant to paragraph 12.2(1) "e" "4" as an example of the transfer of credits earned as applicant to an NCA accredited institution.

The applicant institution must submit its application by January 1 so that on January 2 of the following year its students may begin submitting need analysis applications for the following academic year.

Applications received by the commission will be submitted to a committee of NCA registrars selected by the commission. The committee will be asked to review the application to verify that the requirements for credit transfer of these rules have been satisfied.

12.2(3) *Notice of change of status.* Any institution which (a) loses NCA accreditation, (b) ceases to be a candidate for NCA accreditation, (c) ceases to be a school giving satisfactory assurance that it has the potential for accreditation and is making progress toward accreditation, or (d) becomes aware that its credits are no longer being accepted by three NCA institutions previously identified to the commission pursuant to paragraph 12.2(1) "e" above shall so notify the commission immediately. Failure to comply with this notice of change requirement will be justification for revocation of eligibility.

12.2(4) *Definitions.*

"*Accelerated program*" is an academic program, defined by the institution, which allows the student to complete the program of training in less than the normal prescribed time period. An accelerated program may be defined for a set group of students or may be a self-directed program in which the student has received approval from the appropriate officials of the institution.

"*Applicant*" is an educational institution seeking to participate in the Iowa tuition grant program (Iowa Code section 261.9, et seq.).

"*Credit*" is hourly academic credit granted for completed coursework at applicant, and accepted for transfer by an NCA accredited institution. "Life experience credit" and "credit by examination" do not constitute credit for the purposes of these rules.

"*Located in Iowa*" means a college or university accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, that has made a substantial investment in a permanent Iowa campus and staff, and that offers a full range of courses leading to the degrees offered by the institution as well as a full range of student services.

12.2(5) *Review of eligibility.*

a. The commission shall periodically, at least every three years, investigate and review compliance of institutions participating in the tuition grant program with criteria described in Iowa Code section 261.9 and this rule.

b. If the commission finds that an institution fails to comply with the provisions of Iowa Code section 261.9 and this rule, participation in the tuition grant program shall be suspended.

12.2(6) Affirmative action. Every institution which participates in the Iowa tuition grant program shall submit, each December, an affirmative action report which will include existing and proposed plans for recruitment and retention of minority students and minority faculty members and nontraditional students. The report shall also include statistics on minority enrollment and employment and other information as outlined in 1988 Iowa Acts, chapter 1284, section 23, paragraph “f, subparagraphs (1) to (5).

This rule is intended to implement Iowa Code chapter 261.

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